

# THE YANCEY RECORD

YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS NEEDED FOR THE U.F. TO REACH ITS GOAL

Volume 33

Burnsville, N. C.

Thursday, December 5, 1968

Number Thirteen

## Thomas Named District Court Prosecutor



Phillip M. Thomas was sworn in as Prosecuting Attorney of District Court in ceremonies in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court here Monday morning.

Thomas was appointed by Resident Judge W. E. Anglin as Prosecuting Attorney of the District Court in the 24th Judicial District for a term of two years.

Mr. Thomas graduated from Berea College, Berea, Ky., in 1956 after which he worked as assistant administrator of Spruce Pine Hospital until September of 1962. He then entered the University of North Carolina Law School and graduated in May 1965. He passed the Bar in August 1965 and opened a law office in Burnsville in September 1965 and began law practice here.

Mr. Thomas is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lowe Thomas of Burnsville and is married to the former Reba Buchanan and they are the parents of a son and daughter.

He will close his law office in the old courthouse here this week and will move into an office in the new courthouse provided for the District Court Prosecutor.

Other elected and re-elected county officers, as well as those who will be holding county offices under appointment, were sworn in during the ceremonies here Monday.

Those sworn in were O. W. Deyton, Chairman Board of Commissioners; Frank Fox and Earl Young, members; Fred Proffitt, Clerk; Miss Glenna Thomas, Assistant Clerk; Mrs. Jewell McIntosh, Deputy Clerk of Superior Court; Mrs. Grace M. Ayers, Register of Deeds, and Mrs. Jean B. Buchanan, Assistant; Boyd Laws, Tax Collector, County Accountant; and Mrs. Paul Hughes and Mrs. Nan Proffitt, assistants; and W. A. Higgins and W. M. Hall, Magistrates, the former full time and the latter, parttime; and Bill Atkins, County Attorney.

Following the ceremonies refreshments were served by Mrs. Grace Ayers and Mrs. Buchanan

## Awards Meeting In Asheville Saturday

Several hundred rural and civic leaders from throughout Western North Carolina will be on hand in the Asheville City Auditorium on Saturday, December 7 at 12 noon for the 19th annual awards meeting of the Asheville Agricultural Development Council.

Highlight of this event will be the announcement of the top winners of the Western North Carolina Community Development Program for 1968. The meeting will climax a year's work by the 114 organized areas in 16 counties that have competed in the community improvement program this year.

Dr. Paul Miller, director of University Planning Studies of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte will be the principal speaker.

Dr. Miller, a widely known speaker, has served in numerous capacities, having been a county farm agent, director of the Michigan Agricultural Extension Service, president of the University of West Virginia and until recently Assistant Secretary of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington.

Over \$4,500 in awards will be presented to the organized communities in the area judged to have made the greatest progress during the year. An additional \$8,000 in prizes have already been presented by local sponsors in county contests. Sixteen county winners competed in the final judging of the non-farm division in mid-November, 13 in the farm division and 15 in the youth program.

Representing Yancey county in the area finals were Newdale community in the non-farm division, Green Mountain in the farm division and White Oak in the youth program.

The WNC Community Program is sponsored by the Asheville Agricultural Development Council and the agricultural agencies in each county. The awards meeting on December 7 will mark the completion of 19 years of operation of the Agricultural Development Council as an area development association for the western counties.

Farm division awards and sponsors are as follows: first prize, \$400, Sears, Roebuck & Company; second prize, \$300, The Northwestern Bank; third prize, \$200, Ivey's of Asheville and fourth prize, Gerber Products Company. Honorable mention awards of \$50 each are sponsored by: Arbor Acres, Asheville, Lowe's of Asheville, K-Mart, Matthews Motors, FCX, Inc., Rose's Westgate, Biltmore Dairy Farms, Gerber Products

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## Rev. Styles Accepts Pastorate



Rev. and Mrs. Bert Styles, who arrived from their home in Kingsport, Tenn., four weeks ago to occupy the Micaville-Estatos Presbyterian manse in Micaville, are welcome additions to that community. Rev. Styles is pastor of the Micaville-Estatos Presbyterian churches.

Natives of the Paint Gap section of Yancey County, Rev. and Mrs. Styles have since 1946 divided their work between Tennessee and North Carolina. April 7, 1946 the Styles' moved to Buladean, N. C., where Mr. Styles was ordained and became pastor of four churches in Mitchell County and part time evangelist for Holston Presbytery. Following his work in Mitchell County Rev. and Mrs. Styles moved to Roan Mountain, Tenn., where he continued preaching at Roan Mountain and out-lying churches, and doing evangelistic work for six years. The next move for the Styles' was to Kingsport, Tenn., living in the Central community and working for five years with a two church field, moving from the status of chapel mission churches to fully organized churches—Central Presbyterian Church and Bridwell Heights Presbyterian Church, both of which churches Mr. Styles helped in organizing and getting started on their own.

Following five years at the Kingsport churches Mr. and Mrs. Styles moved to Newdale, N. C., where Rev. Styles accepted a call to serve the Newdale-Grassy Creek Presbyterian Churches, which pastorate he kept for more than six years, when he returned to Bridwell Heights Presbyterian Church in Kingsport, where he remained until accepting the call to the Micaville-Estatos charge.

Mrs. Styles, the former Lucy Lenland, also a native of Yancey County, has been of great assistance to Mr. Styles in his work. They are the parents of one daughter, Mrs. Ray English of Kingsport. Mr. and Mrs. English have two daughters, Donna Rhea and Rhonda Kay.

## STATE'S NEW JUDICIAL SYSTEM NOW OPERATING IN YANCEY

The judicial powers of the State, as set forth in Article IV of its Constitution, had for almost a hundred years continued without any material change — until in 1962 an amendment to the Constitution was adopted by a majority vote of the people entirely re-writing this Article IV — and until enabling legislation was provided by the 1965 session of the Legislature, designed to implement this Article IV and thereby "promote the just and prompt disposition of litigation".

Now under the State Constitution as so amended, and under authority vested by the said amendment, there is a new system of courts — an over-all GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE made up of four divisions: (1) the Appellate Division, consisting of the Supreme Court and the recently created Court of Appeals; (2) the Superior Court division; (3) the District Court division (new); and (4) Magistrate division (replacing the office of Justice of the Peace, which has been abolished).

And then there is the recently established Administrative Office of the Courts, which has the responsibility of supervising the transition from the old to the new system, with authority to prescribe uniform business administration methods, systems, forms and records for the office of the Clerks of Superior Court — which offices have the responsibility of keeping the records not only of the Superior Court but of the two inferior courts of the system — and of supervising thereafter the operation of such offices.

The new system became operational in twenty-two counties of the state in December of 1966, sixty-one other counties were brought in on Monday of this week — leaving seventeen to be brought in before January 1, 1971, when the system will be fully operational over the State.

In its operation the powers and authority of the Appellate Division and the Superior Court Division will remain unchanged, although the work-load of the latter will be greatly reduced by the operation of the new District Court division — this court having original jurisdiction for trial of criminal actions, including municipal ordinance violations, below the grade of felony. Nor will there be any change in the probate jurisdiction of the Clerks of Superior Court, who will continue as ex-officio judges of probate, with authority to take proof of and admit to probate wills of deceased persons and qualify executors; appoint administrators of persons who have died intestate, appoint guardians or trustees of minors and mentally incompetent per-

sons, and to supervise the administration of estates entrusted to all such fiduciaries.

The cost of operating their courts has always constituted a financial burden for the counties of the State. It is natural, therefore, that the people of the county should be concerned about how this burden will be affected by this change of systems. Perhaps only time will supply an answer to this question. But it would certainly appear that the burden will be reduced. Under the old system, only the salaries of the Judges who presided over sessions of the Superior Court and the prosecuting Solicitor were paid by the State. Under the new system, the Clerk of Superior Court, the Assistant Clerk and the Deputy Clerk are all salaried officers of the State, as are the two Magistrates (one full time, one part time) allowed the county. And, too, all equipment and supplies for the Clerk's office are supplied by the State — so that only heating and lighting will constitute an expense by this office to the county.

But, except for the creation of a uniform and (in most counties at least) improved system of record keeping in the offices of the Clerks of Superior Court in the various counties of the state, the abolishment of the fee system — some times making possible "fee grabbing" — is perhaps the greatest advantage of the new over the old system.

## 711 Deer Hunters In Refuge Last Week

Lee Boone, Director of the Mt. Mitchell Game Refuge, states that last week's deer hunt in the Refuge brought out 711 hunters from all over the state as well as neighboring states, with a total kill of 39 deer. The hunt, which started Nov. 25, will last through this week. The bow and arrow hunt, which took place in October and lasted one week brought out 382 hunters, who bagged 8 deer and two bears. The two day either sex hunt, December 20th and 21st, will wind up the season.

BUY A FRUIT CAKE FROM A LION